



# **Is Los Angeles Experiencing a Crime Bump?**

June 29, 2018

**Downtown LA** had the most assaults, with 174.

This number rose from 154 in April and 119 a year ago.

**46% Increase in Assaults Year-Over-Year**

# Theft From A Vehicle

Again, **Downtown LA** tops the list, with 143 in May 2018.

62.5% Increase Year-Over-Year



facebook

## DTLA Town Square ▾

Public Group • 2.9K Members



About

Discussion

Announcements

Photos

 Josh Albrektson created a poll in DTLA Town Square. 

August 10, 2017 · 

I'm gonna try again to make a poll that makes sense.  
Regarding safety in DTLA

I feel LESS safe today than I did 6 months ago   
 73 votes

I feel NO DIFFERENCE in safety over the last 6 months   
 45 votes

I feel MORE safe today than I did 6 months ago   
 7 votes

+ Add a poll option...

Like Comment Share

58% of DTLA Respondents  
feel LESS safe than they  
did 6-months prior.

Poll Created by Josh Albrektson

August 10, 2017



Danny Johnson ► DTLA Town Square

January 23 · 

Downtown is losing some great people. Friends I have encouraged to move down have left recently or are now leaving. Incidents happen every single day multiple times a day on Spring Street 24 hours a day. Been downtown 15 years and I can honestly say I dont enjoy day to day life anymore. I worry every time I step on the street and I'm not a timid guy. Not sure why I'm posting this, it feels pointless.

 Like     Comment     Share

   34

“Incidents happen every single day (on Spring St.)...Been downtown 15 years and I can honestly say I don’t enjoy day to day life anymore. I worry every time I step on the street...”

- Danny Johnson

Spring Street - January 23<sup>rd</sup> 2018



Deisy Suarez ► DTLA Town Square

February 6 · ●

...

One of my closest friends just got robbed on 6th Street historic core. (More details to follow)

She was hit & pushed to the floor by an African American male that then grabbed her purse and took off.

She's too shaken to even deal with the cops, she's now home crying and dealing with her emotions and trauma.

This place has become more intolerable over the past 2 years, she's one of the long term residents, over 13 years but she's also giving up on the fight she can't take it anymore.

Dear neighbors, please stay safe.

**“One of my closest friends just got robbed...she's one of the long term residents, over 13 years but...she can't take it anymore.**

- Deisy Suarez

6<sup>th</sup> Street - February 6<sup>th</sup> 2018

 Josh Albrektson shared a link to the group: DTLA Town Square. ...

October 16, 2017 • 

I moved out of DTLA because a homicide that happened near my place. I always used to look at the LA Times homicide map and in past years the murders were localized to Skid Row. Nowadays you are starting to get some outside of Skid Row.

 LADOWNTOWNNEWS.COM

**Homicides Spike in Downtown**

DTLA - Just before 3 a.m. on Sept. 22, a homeless man was beaten to death in the Historic Core. The body of 61-year-old Donald Sandstrom...

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**“I moved out of DTLA because a homicide that happened near my place.”**

- Josh Albrektson

October 16, 2017



Alexandra Leh ► DTLA Town

Square

May 4 ·

...

About four years ago (back when the quality of DTLA life had started to seriously slip), I'd been accosted two days in a row by the same meth head...once on 4th between Spring and Main (I swung at him with the bag of garlic and ginger I'd bought at Grand Central, and he ran), and again the very next day in front of the Spring Arcade Famima.

I took my mom's brass duck-head cane with me the day after that, and asked a cop in front of me in line at Starbucks what my liability would be if I used it to defend myself. He said that, if I carried it like I was using it as a cane and had to hit an attacker with it, I'd be fine. But if I carried it like a weapon (say, across my body), I'd be considered the threat.

But 2018 is feeling far more dangerous than 2014, and I'm often tempted to carry one of these in addition to my little vial of pepper spray. If I \*was\* carrying the cane or the bat or the putter, and the guy who slammed the girl to the ground yesterday came at me, and I couldn't get out of his way, and hit him before he hit me...what would my liability be? **Slo Martinez?** **Sarge Flanagan?** **Deon Joseph?**

**“About four years ago...I’d been accosted two days in a row by the same meth head...2018 is feeling far more dangerous than 2014...”**

- Alexandra Leh

4<sup>th</sup> & Spring - May 4<sup>th</sup> 2018

Eileen Colavita  
Yesterday at 7:53 PM ·

Don't see anyone talking about the attempted rape this afternoon in the Topaz parking garage yet. Sunday afternoon, girl getting attacked in a parking garage just feet away from people hanging out at Redline and walking the streets. And he didn't get caught. The reality of living in DTLA is no longer something anyone can sugar coat. Oh yeah, it's a city, deal with it. That's not what's happening. The people that move into these new buildings have no idea what they're getting into and the irresponsibility of the city for allowing the development without cleaning anything up first is appalling. Look at the marketing these buildings put out. The beautiful people by the pool, the cool restaurants steps away...the guy lurking in the parking garage ready to rape you when you go to your car. Oh that last one's not in the marketing materials. They just take the money and run, then take more of our tax money to fix it, yet it gets worse and worse and the one thing they won't deal with, is the fact that a kind approach is not going to work with these people. They're sick and many of them criminals and if you want to keep handing out the building permits for the new construction, you need to contain what was already there, or the new shouldn't

“Don’t see anyone talking about the attempted rape this afternoon...The reality of living in DTLA is no longer something anyone can sugar coat...The people that move into these new buildings have no idea what they’re getting into...”

- Eileen Colavita

Topaz Parking Garage - Main & 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
August 5<sup>th</sup> 2018



Nathasha Loos ► DTLA Town Square

3 hrs ·

...

Just witnessed an altercation at 7th and Spring. One guy threw a flaming bottle at another guy. It hit the ground and exploded. Happened right in front of us. We would have been hit if we didn't run.



49

41 Comments 2 Shares

“Just witnessed an altercation... One guy threw a flaming bottle at another guy. It hit the ground and exploded. Happened right in front of us.”

- Nathasha Loos

7<sup>th</sup> & Spring Street – March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018

[Search in DTLA Town Square](#)

About Discussion Photos Events Files

 **Joseph Arias** June 24 ·

Watch out for this guy with knife last seen walking 5th towards broadway has knife and is getting into verbal altercations with others. Already notified 911.



64

75 Comments 7 Shares

“Watch out for this guy with knife last seen walking 5<sup>th</sup> towards Broadway...(He) is getting into verbal alterations with others.”

- Joseph Arias

5th & Broadway - June 24th 2018



Kirk A. Gaw ► DTLA Town Square

January 13 · 

I understand someone was stabbed in alley behind Spring St. Anyone have details? This makes 2nd stabbing in 1 week! Could it be the same guy? Are they coming out of Alexandria Hotel Bld. again? I still hear helicopters and earlier sirens. Details anyone?  
UPDATE: The female victim died from her attack behind City Lofts Alley.

 Like     Comment     Share

 11

“I understand someone was stabbed in alley behind Spring St... This makes 2<sup>nd</sup> stabbing in 1 week!...

UPDATE: The Female victim died from her attack behind City Lofts Alley.”

- Kirk A. Gaw

7<sup>th</sup> & Spring St. - January 13<sup>th</sup> 2018

gofundme

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On Monday, June 25th at approximately 6pm Mikhail was walking his dog in front of his apartment in downtown Los Angeles walking his dog with a few friends on their way to get dinner. Suddenly, he was struck in the face by a violent homeless man armed with a 2x4 embedded with nails.

<http://www.foxla.com/news/local-news/video-shows-good-samaritan-using-flying-kick-to-take-down-violent-transient-only-on-fox->

His upper lip was ripped open, part of his nose was torn from his face and he broke his hand in the ensuing chaos when he fell. The full extent of his injuries is not yet known. His first trip to a local hospital for 2 days of treatment created an even worse situation with infection affecting both his hand and nose. Due to the infection, Mikhail required another visit to an emergency room spending 2 more days in treatment.

Finally he met with a plastic surgeon who will determine how to repair the damage, his ongoing care and healing.



Although Mikhail is a working photographer, he does not have health insurance and his injuries are sufficient enough to prevent him from working. While he expects to undergo multiple surgeries to rebuild his nose and upper lip he will require some assistance with rent and bills over the next 2-3 months while he recovers.

Currently he requires approximately \$20,000 to cover his immediate rent and living expenses for the next 2 months and another \$25,000 to cover his hospital bills, reconstructive surgery, medications, wound care and other unknown expenses.



Mikhail is a very humble and hard working guy who is encouraged by his friends and family. He is very deserving of all the help he can get in this time of need. Please help us to help our neighbor.

Mikhail is a very humble and hard working guy who is encouraged by his friends and family. He is very deserving of all the help he can get in this time of need. Please help us to help our neighbor.



“...he was stuck in the face by a violent homeless man armed with a 2x4 embedded with nails.”

- Victim's GoFundMe Page  
6<sup>th</sup> & Spring - June 25<sup>th</sup> 2018

 Matt Britos ► DTLA Town Square

January 6 · 

6th and Broadway. Two guys fighting and guy gets stabbed. I don't know all the details. I arrived once one of the men was on the floor getting slapped by the other man. Cops arrived shortly.



Write a comment...   

“Two guys fighting and  
guy gets stabbed.”

- Matt Britos

6<sup>th</sup> & Broadway - January 6<sup>th</sup> 2018



All Eyes On Me: Los Angeles

May 30 ·

...

A man became erratic and disoriented with two knives in each hand on 7th and Broadway... when LAPD pulled up with shot guns, I chased the suspect on foot as he fled on foot through St. Vincent's Court towards Pershing square. The end result.



Like

Comment

Share

17

**“A man became erratic and disoriented with two knives in each hand...”**

- All Eyes On Me

7<sup>th</sup> & Broadway - May 30<sup>th</sup> 2018



Brandon Coen ► DTLA Town  
Square  
May 3 ·

...

This happened around 2:30 this afternoon in front of SB Grand. This piece of shit hit this poor girl and then hit me. Luckily I was able to follow him down Broadway to 7th where the police arrested him. Do any of you know this girl? I have an incident report if she would like to press charges as well. I'm hoping she does!

Huge THANK YOU to the unknown good samaritan who gave this piece of shit a dose of his own medicine.



“...Around 2:30 this afternoon in front of SB Grand. This piece of s\*\*\* hit this poor girl and then hit me.”

- Brandon Cohen

5<sup>th</sup> & Broadway - May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018

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About Discussion Photos Events Files

Ana Pepe  
July 17 at 11:40 PM ·

Happening on my block, corner of Spring & 6th... if you're in the DTLA area and wondering what all the sirens are about... fight broke out in front of Joe's Pizza on Spring St. Folks say one of the guys pulled a gun and was making threats. About 5/6 cop cars showed up, guns and rifles drawn. Thankfully, no one was hurt and they are wrapping it up. Be safe out there! ❤️  
A few pics...

Search in DTLA Town Square

About Discussion Photos Events Files

Kim Lee  
July 17 at 10:45 PM ·

**Police standoff near 6th and Spring. Shots. We're stuck at Beelman's**

28      68 Comments

“...fight broke out in front of Joe's Pizza on Spring St. Folks say one of the guys pulled a gun and was making threats.”

- Ana Pepe

6<sup>th</sup> and Spring - July 17<sup>th</sup> 2018

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About Discussion Photos Events Files

Yaebin Kay Bernal 11 hrs · Los Angeles ·

I walked up to this crap in my garage at 8th and Olive this morning. More than a few cars were broken into last night. There was nothing to steal in the car so it's likely just a standard drug induced rampage.



“More than a few cars were broken into last night.”

- Yaebin Kay Bernal  
Garage at 8<sup>th</sup> & Olive – August 17<sup>th</sup> 2018

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 **Alex Nice**  
Yesterday at 2:56 PM ·

My wife was wearing open-toed sandals and accidentally kicked one of these used needles on the Spring st sidewalk last week. It was extremely close to sticking her. (It's not necessary to comment- this is just a reminder to watch your step when walking downtown.)



“My wife...accidentally kicked one of these used needles on the Spring St. sidewalk last week.”

- Alex Nice

Spring Street - August 29, 2018

 Betsy Starman ► DTLA Town Square

March 11 · 

From a person who lives in my building: "Just thought I'd mention to everyone that an elderly woman was punched in the head without provocation an hour ago in front of Walgreen's at 5th/Broadway. Assailant was a black male with a shaved head, who walked calmly away afterwards down 5th Street. Police and paramedics were called. So you might want to consider the addition of boxing headgear to your spring fashion accessories." This is really a total bummer that this happened. Grrrrr

---

 Like     Comment     Share

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 26

“...an elderly woman was punched in the head without provocation an hour ago in front of Walgreen's...”

- Besty Starman

5<sup>th</sup> & Broadway - March 11<sup>th</sup> 2018

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About Discussion Photos Events Files

1 Like Comment Share

Lori Shefa July 3 · ...

Husband, son and I standing on the corner in front of Terroni about to cross the street tonight when a glass bottle shattered in front of us...just missing our heads. People behind us said a homeless person threw it at us. We looked to see who it was but they were already too far down the next block before we could get a good look. Wow. So lucky they missed. Could have been a very different night for my family.

56 2 Comments

Like Comment Share

“...glass bottle shattered in front of us...just missing our heads. People behind us said a homeless person threw it at us.”

- Lori Shefa

8<sup>th</sup> & Spring St. - July 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018

**Kim Lee**  
June 24 ·

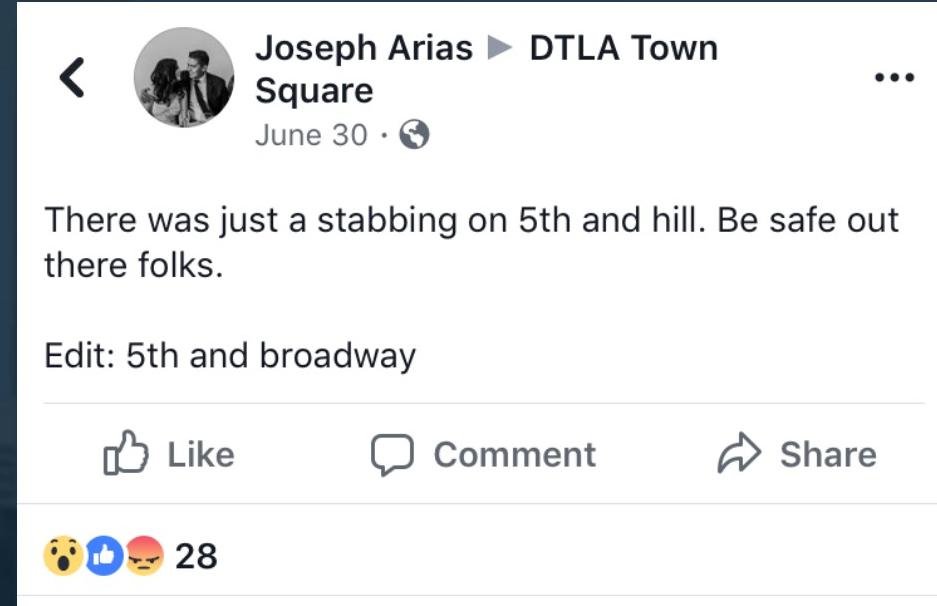
Last night was the moment I realized that, after my lease ends, I may have to REALLY consider leaving DTLA. What happened: 2 guy friends and I were walking from Spring to Freehand. On the way to there, on 8th, I spotted a group of guys on the sidewalk up ahead, they flanked each side. The guys on the left side looked at me then nodded at the guy on the right side, who leaned against a parked car. He then nodded back, looked in our direction (we're still a few yards away), then reached into the car and grabbed something. He turned back to us, barely concealing a knife. I had already been drinking, but my military training and pure instinct kicked in and I just broke and ran across the street. My guy friends yelled after me, following, and I had to yell back "He has a knife. They were going to rob us." Of course the men heard me and you can tell they were aiming to move and attempt elsewhere. I had fun the rest of the night but I couldn't shake the feeling of not being safe, even when I got home. I guess, this isn't a post of me demanding action or yelling at anyone for any perceived lack of action, just....to say I'm starting to give up. If DTLA is going to turn into Arkham because of inaction, then I don't want to be here for that.

39    47 Comments    2 Shares

“...I spotted a group of guys on the side walk up ahead...(he) then reached into the car and grabbed something. He turned back to us barely concealing a knife...They were going to rob us.”

- Kim Lee

8<sup>th</sup> & Spring - June 23<sup>rd</sup> 2018



“There was a stabbing...  
Be safe out there folks.”

- Joseph Arias

5<sup>th</sup> & Broadway - June 30<sup>th</sup> 2018

Search in DTLA Town Square

About Discussion Photos Events Files

Kirk A. Gaw  
July 15 at 2:45 PM ·

This man who is probably still out there was standing in the middle of 7th & Broadway intersection throwing rocks at cars and yelling at pedestrians, laughing while he did it. I notified HC BID and LAPD.

The image consists of two side-by-side photographs. The left photograph shows a man standing on a brick-paved crosswalk in the middle of a street. He is wearing a white tank top, dark pants, and a cap. The right photograph shows the same man kneeling on the same crosswalk, appearing to be in the middle of an action like throwing something or shouting.

“This man...was standing in the middle of...(the) intersection throwing rocks at cars and yelling at pedestrians...”

- Kirk A. Gaw

7<sup>th</sup> & Broadway - July 15<sup>th</sup> 2018



Kirk A. Gaw ► DTLA Town Square

11 hrs •

The mentally unstable person who tried to attack customers at Dolly Llama on Saturday (as reported here first) returned last night and began kicking in doors at the Hayward and Joe's Pizza. It is reported that he was arrested and taken to jail.



14

20 Comments

“The mentally unstable person  
who tried to attack customers  
...returned last night and began  
kicking in doors at the Hayward  
and Joe’s Pizza.”

- Kirk A. Gaw

6<sup>th</sup> & Spring St – August 7<sup>th</sup> 2018

Verizon 9:20 PM 90%

< Search in DTLA Town Square i

About Discussion Photos Events Files

21 9 Comments

Like Comment Share

Jessy Chang O'Dell July 14 at 10:06 AM · ...

Just witnessed a robbery of a man running up behind a woman and snatched her purse and her phone. Ladies, be sure to wear your purse crossbody instead of just on one shoulder. This happened on the corner of 3rd and Spring.

28 21 Comments

Like Comment Share

“Just witnessed a robbery  
of a man running up  
behind a woman and  
snatched her purse...”

- Jessy Change O'Dell  
3<sup>rd</sup> & Spring St. - July 14<sup>th</sup> 2018

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About Discussion Photos Events Files

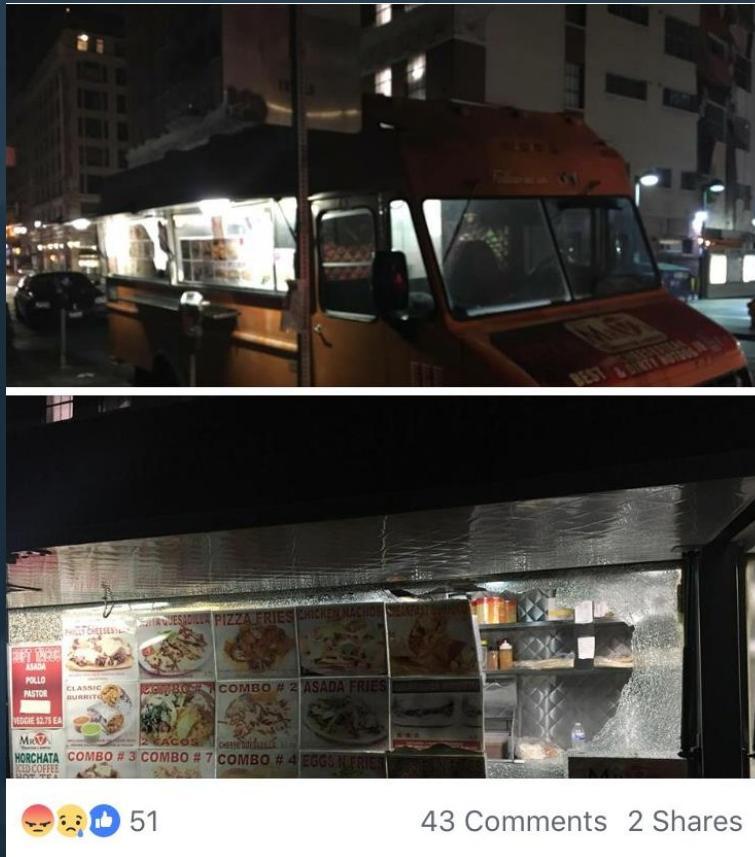
 **Chad Geib**  
Saturday at 10:25 AM · [Share](#)

FYI, The neighborhood around 5th and Broadway has been very unsafe lately. Combination of a group of homeless living around the park getting bolder and bolder, stealing and fighting right out in the streets, and a new group of severely mentally ill people in the area.

Case in point, the food truck on 5th between Broadway and Hill every night, had its windows smashed last night because the owner wouldn't give free food to a vagrant.

This poor guy works really hard every night and always cleans up the sidewalks around his truck after he finishes for the night. He also helps several homeless in the area. He didn't deserve this. If you guys get a chance maybe stop by his truck and show him some love.

Suspect description: male with skateboard wearing only shorts



“FYI, The neighborhood around 5<sup>th</sup> and Broadway has been very unsafe lately...the food truck...had its windows smashed last night because the owner wouldn’t give free food to a vagrant.”

- Chad Geib

5<sup>th</sup> & Broadway – August 4<sup>th</sup> 2018



Kirk A. Gaw ► DTLA Town Square

January 2, 2017 • 🌎

...

BEWARE: This man attempted to attack me at 4th & Broadway and is extremely violent and dangerous. Evidently, I was walking by while he was stealing a bike. He stopped me and said that I looked at him the wrong way and tried to swing at me before I snapped these pictures. He backed off after I threatened to call the LAPD who were contacted.



Like

Comment

Share

23

**“BEWARE: This man attempted to attack me at 4<sup>th</sup> & Broadway and is extremely violent and dangerous.”**

- Kirk A. Gaw

4<sup>th</sup> & Broadway - January 2, 2017



Josh Albrektson ► DTLA Town Square

May 12, 2017 ·

...

Be on the lookout for this person. She has assaulted many DTLA residents, including **Chad Geibs** girlfriend. I left a message with Sgt Flannigan, head head Senior Lead Officer. I'm hoping to get the picture distributed to the DTLA SLO's and hopefully we can get her off the streets.



Write a comment...



“Be on the lookout for this person. She has assaulted many DTLA residents...”

- Josh Albrektson

May 12, 2017

 Ivan Robles ► DTLA Town Square  
May 19, 2017 · Los Angeles · 

Security guard on spring/5th just suffered an attempted assault by what seems to be a transient.

Tall, slender, white man (40s) in a grey hooded sweater.

The attacker was frightened off by onlookers.

Be careful out there.

---

 Like     Comment     Share

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   7

“Security guard on Spring/5<sup>th</sup> just suffered an attempted assault by what seems to be a transient.”

- Ivan Robles

5<sup>th</sup> & Spring - May 19, 2017



Kirk A. Gaw ► DTLA Town Square  
July 5, 2017 • 🌎

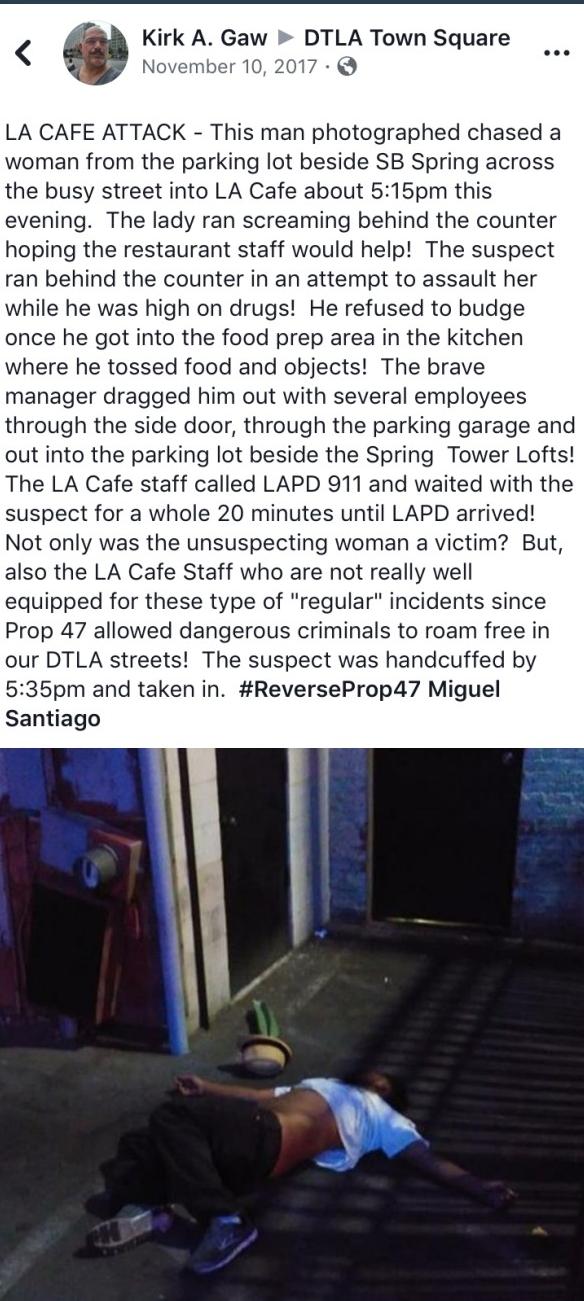
Just wanted to provide photos of this new dangerous transient making himself about the Historic Core. He attempted to assault a Senior Citizen in front of Starbucks at 6th & Spring. The HC BID patrol were right there to witness him. Next, he rammed his shopping cart into the Hayward Manor, Spring St. entrance- glass doors. No damages. This man is out of control and appears violent! #LAPD be on lookout!  
Slo Martinez



“Just wanted to provide photos of this new dangerous transient... He attempted to assault a Senior Citizen...

- Kirk A. Gaw

6<sup>th</sup> & Spring - June 5, 2017



"This man photographed chased a woman... The lady ran screaming behind the counter hoping the restaurant staff would help! The suspect ran behind the counter in an attempt to assault her while he was high on drugs!"

- Kirk A. Gaw

7<sup>th</sup> & Spring St. - November 10, 2017



Kirk A. Gaw ► DTLA Town Square  
December 7, 2017 · Los Angeles · ...

I was held hostage with 6 people by this man at LA Café this morning. He won't leave and is holding the doors closed on us. It has been 25 minutes now and still no LAPD. At 639 S. Spring.



Write a comment...



**“I was held hostage with 6 people by this man at LA Café this morning. He won't leave and is holding the doors closed on us.”**

- Kirk A. Gaw

7<sup>th</sup> & Spring St. - December 7, 2017

 Kirk A. Gaw ► DTLA Town Square ...  
August 11, 2016 •

2nd Stabbing this Summer at "7-11" on Olive & 7th St.! Apparently on Sunday evening a transient men began fighting over the microwave with the victim at the Mandel Bld. location! While screaming at each other inside the store he pulled a knife out and began to stab repeatedly until the other man fell in submission! The cashier at the store cleaned a pool of blood and has the incident on video! It is unclear from LAPD whether the assailant was caught? The store recently held news when they erected a fence around the corner where transients sat causing discomfort for Mandel residents and crime! A "7-11" Security guard was stabbed in May at the same location.



Like Comment Share

**"2<sup>nd</sup> Stabbing this Summer at  
"7-11"...he pulled a knife out  
and began to stab repeatedly  
until the other man fell in  
submission!... A "7-11"  
Security guard was stabbed in  
May at the same location."**

- Kirk A. Gaw

Olive & 7<sup>th</sup> Street - August 11, 2016